

AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached replacement sheet of drawings includes changes to Figs. 1a and 2. Specifically, Fig. 2 is amended to replace the reference numbers "R1" and "R2" with --R5-- and --R6-- for Fig. 2. The lead line for the diffuser in Fig. 1a is corrected. Fig. 3 is added to show the feature recited in claim 3. Annotated drawing sheets showing the changes in red are also attached. No new matter has been added.

Attachment: Replacement and Annotated formal drawing sheet.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested. By the present amendment, claims 1-9 are amended and 10-13 are added. The specification is amended to correct the patent application number for EP-A-1 155 926. United States patent number 6,536,801, which the examiner used to reject claims 1-6 and 8-9 of the present invention, is a family member of EP-A-1 155 926 and corresponds to EP-A-1 155 926. Per the examiner's request in item 1 of the office action, a copy of EP-A-1 155 929 is attached with this amendment. The specification is also amended to correct the informalities in item 5a and 5c of the office action. The sentence with respect to item 5b is complete as originally written with a subject ("The indentation"), a compound verb ("is created"), and the object ("by the central section....module."). The sentence at page 2, lines 11-13 is amended to form a complete sentence. Amendments were also made in the background of the invention to form complete sentences. Therefore, the objection to the specification should be withdrawn.

Fig. 2 is amended to replace the reference numbers "R1" and "R2" with --R5-- and --R6-- for Fig. 2. Accordingly, the specification is amended to reflect this change to Fig. 2. The lead line for the diffusor in Fig. 1a is corrected. Fig. 3 is added to show the feature recited in claim 3 that the horizontal width of the upper region is greater than the horizontal width of the lower region. This feature is

disclosed in the specification on page 4, lines 8-10.

Annotated drawing sheets showing the changes in red are also attached. No new matter has been added. Therefore, the objection to the drawings should be withdrawn.

Claim 1 is amended to add -driver's- before "gas bag module" in line 5 to correctly correspond to the "driver's gas bag module" recited in line 1 and thus, provide proper antecedent basis for this element to overcome the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 112. Claims 1-9 are amended to replace "characterized in that" with "wherein" for better form. Claim 2 is amended to delete the word "thereof" for better form. Claim 7 is amended to provide proper antecedent basis for "outer edge (34)" to overcome the rejection of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. 112. These amendments to claims 2-9 are not done to further distinguish over the prior art.

Claim 1 is also amended to recite that each of the straight sections (36a, 36b, 36c) are orthogonal with respect to an adjoining one of the straight sections (36a, 36b, 36c). Claim 1 patentably defines over Frisch and Bosgieter et al. Neither Frisch nor Bogsgietter et al. taken either alone or in combination discloses or suggests that each of the straight sections are orthogonal with respect to an adjoining one of the straight sections.

Therefore, claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2-9, which depend from claim 1, are allowable as depending from an allowable claim and also for the specific limitations recited therein.

New claim 13, which depends on claim 1, should be allowed for the same reason as claim 1 and also for the additional feature that the upper region (30) has only the three adjoining substantially straight sections (36a, 36b, 36c). None of the prior disclose or suggest this feature and including the all of the limitations of claim 1. Therefore, claim 13 is allowable.

New claim 10 recites a driver's gas bag module comprising a gas bag (18). The gas bag in relation to an inflated state has a front wall (22) facing a driver (A). A central section (24) of the front wall in the inflated state has an indentation (26). The indentation is created by the central section (24) at least partially being prevented from a movement in a direction out from the driver's gas bag module (10). The front wall (22), in relation to a center (28) of the indentation (26), has an upper region (30) and a lower region (32). An outer edge (36) of the upper region (30) has first, second, and third substantially straight sections (36a, 36b, 36c). The second straight section (36b) is adjacent the first straight section (36a), and the third straight section (36c) is adjacent the first straight section (36a). The second straight section (36b) and the third straight section (36c) are parallel with respect to each other. None of the prior art discloses or suggests all of the features recited in claim 10. Therefore, claim 10 is allowable.

New claim 11 recites a driver's gas bag module comprising a gas bag (18). The gas bag in relation to an inflated state has a front wall (22) facing a driver (A). A central section

(24) of the front wall in the inflated state has an indentation (26). The indentation is created by the central section (24) at least partially being prevented from a movement in a direction out from the driver's gas bag module (10). The front wall (22), in relation to a center (28) of the indentation (26), has an upper region (30) and a lower region (32). An outer edge (36) of the upper region (30) has first, second, and third substantially straight sections (36a, 36b, 36c). The second straight section (36b) is adjacent the first straight section (36a), and the third straight section (36c) is adjacent the first straight section (36a). An angle formed between the first straight section (36a) and the second straight section (36b) is not obtuse, and an angle formed between the first straight section (36a) and the third straight section (36c) is not obtuse. None of the prior art discloses or suggests all of the features recited in claim 11. Therefore, claim 11 is allowable.

New Claim 12, which depends from claim 11, should be allowed for the same reason as claim 11 and also for the additional feature that the outer edge (36) of the upper region (30) has only the first, second, and third substantially straight sections (36a, 36b, 36c). None of the prior disclose or suggest this feature and including the all of the limitations of claim 12. Therefore, claim 12 is allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested
that the amendment be entered and the application allowed.
Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the
fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,


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Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

Fig. 1a

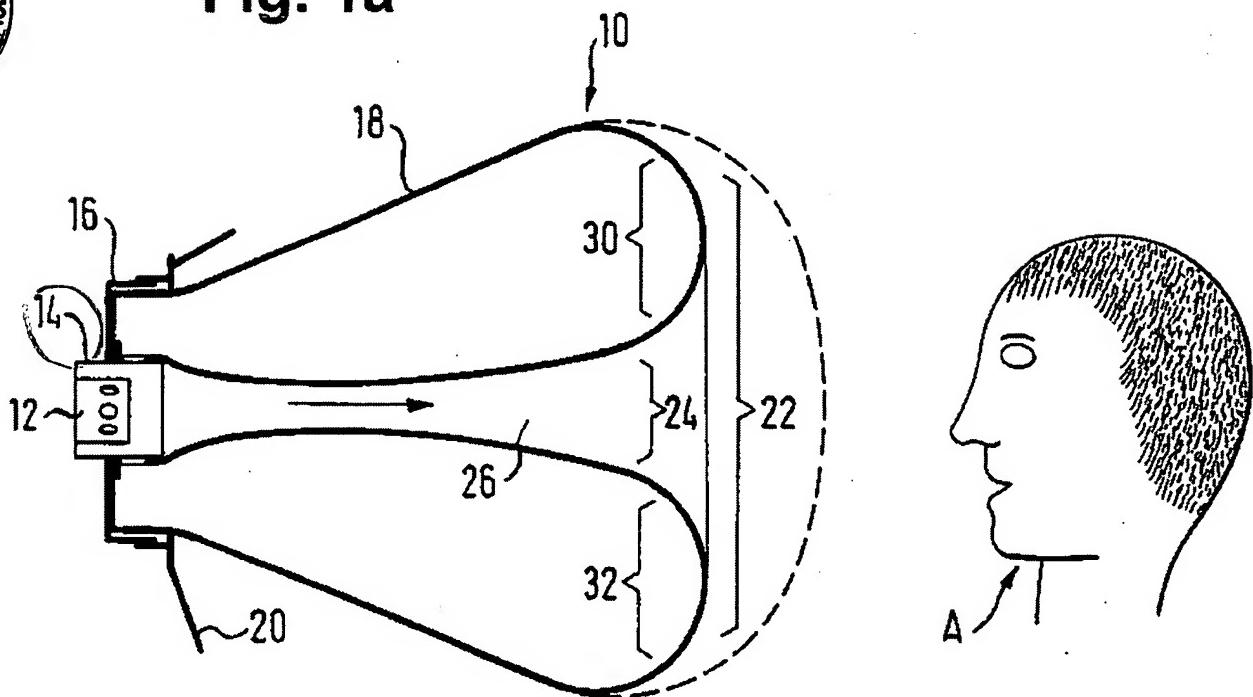


Fig. 1b

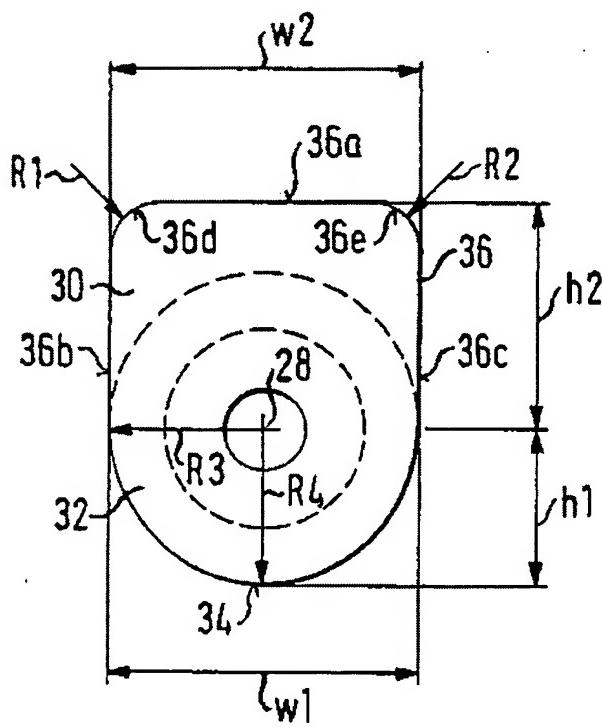


Fig. 2

